AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-58. (canceled)

Claim 59. (currently amended) A method for reproducing digital data from a signal source, comprising the steps of:

reading out recording control information supplied by said source, said recording control information indicating the playback mode of said source and including copy management information indicating whether copying of only digital data is inhibited or copying of both digital data and analog signals is inhibited; and

performing a pre-set conversion operation on said digital data and/or an analog signal generated from said digital data, based on said recording control information;

wherein said pre-set conversion operation for said analog signal includes a color burst inverting operation in which the phase of a front part of a color burst signal in said analog signal is inverted; wherein said color burst signal follows a pre-period burst signal inserted on the trailing side of a horizontal blanking pulse in said analog signal; said pre-period burst signal having the same phase as the inverted front part of the color burst signal.

Claim 60. (original) The method according to claim 59, wherein said digital data is partitioned into sectors or blocks and said recording control information is included in at least one of said sectors or blocks.

Claim 61. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein the pre-set conversion operation on said digital data is a digital descrambling operation.

Claim 62. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 61, wherein said digital data is ciphered data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data includes an operation of deciphering said digital data using key information derived from information used to generate said ciphered data.

Claim 63. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 62, wherein said source is a disc-shaped recording medium and said key information is recorded at a pre-set position of said recording medium.

Claim 64. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 63, wherein said digital data is partitioned into units and at least one of said units is recorded at said pre-set position.

Claim 65. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 64, wherein said at least one unit is located in a lead-in area and/or a program area of said recording medium.

Claim 66. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said at least one unit is placed in a header area of said program area.

Claim 67. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 62, wherein said source is an Integrated Circuit (IC) recording medium and said key information is recorded at a pre-set position of said recording medium.

Claim 68. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 67, wherein said digital data is partitioned into units and at least one of said units is recorded at said pre-set position.

Claim 69. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 68, wherein said at least one unit is located in a lead-in area and/or a program area of said recording medium.

Claim 70. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 69, wherein said at least one unit is placed in a header area of said program area.

Claim 71. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said digital data is ciphered video and/or audio data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data is an operation of deciphering the digital data using at least a portion of the recording control information.

Claim 72. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said digital data is ciphered video and/or audio data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data includes an operation of deciphering said digital data according to decoding means specified by at least a portion of said recording control information.

Claim 73. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said analog signal is an analog video signal and wherein the pre-set conversion operation includes arraying a combination signal of plural pseudo synchronization pulses and plural white peak signals across plural horizontal periods in a vertical blanking period of said analog video signal.

Claim 74. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said analog signal is an analog color video signal and wherein said pre-set conversion operation includes changing the phase of at least a portion of a color burst signal associated with said color video signal.

Claim 75. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 59, wherein the pre-set conversion operation includes arraying a signal coded with plural bits at a pre-set position in said analog signal.

Claim 76. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 75, wherein said analog signal is an analog video signal and said pre-set position is a predetermined horizontal period within a vertical blanking period of said analog video signal.

Claim 77. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 75, wherein said coded signal includes a recording limitation signal indicating a limitation on recording.

Claim 78. (currently amended) A method for reproducing digital video data from a signal record medium, comprising the steps of:

detecting recording control information from said video signal record medium, said recording control information indicating the playback mode of said record medium and including copy management information indicating whether copying of only digital data is inhibited or copying of both digital data and analog signals is inhibited; and

performing a pre-set conversion operation on an analog video signal and/or said digital video data, based on the detected recording control information, wherein said pre-set conversion operation on said analog video signal includes arraying a combination of plural pseudo synchronization pulses and plural white peak signals across plural horizontal periods in a vertical blanking period of said analog video signal and includes a color burst inverting operation in which the phase of a front part of a color burst signal in said analog signal is inverted, and wherein said digital video data is ciphered data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital video data includes deciphering said digital video data using key information; wherein said color burst signal follows a pre-period burst signal inserted on the trailing side of a horizontal blanking pulse in said analog signal; said pre-period burst signal having the same phase as the inverted front part of the color burst signal.

Claim 79. (original) The signal reproducing method as recited in claim 78, wherein said pre-set conversion operation further includes changing the phase of at least a portion of a color burst signal associated with said analog video signal and/or a digital video data.

Claim 80. (original) The signal reproducing method as recited in claim 78, wherein said pre-set conversion operation includes arraying a signal coded with plural bits at a pre-set position in said analog video signal, said signal coded with plural bits being a recording limitation signal indicating a limitation on recording.

Claim 81. (original) The signal reproducing method as recited in claim 78, wherein said digital video data is partitioned into sectors or blocks and said recording control information is included in at least one of said sectors or blocks.

Claim 82. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 81, wherein at least one of said sectors or blocks is placed in a lead-in area and/or a program area of said recording medium.

Claim 83. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 82, wherein said recording control information includes key information derived from information used to generate said ciphered data.

Claim 84. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 83, wherein said key information is placed into said sectors or blocks of said lead-in area and/or said program area.

Claim 85. (original) The signal reproducing method as claimed in claim 83, wherein said key information is placed into a header area of said program area.

Claim 86. (currently amended) An apparatus for reproducing digital data from a signal source, comprising:

means for reading out recording control information supplied by said signal source, said recording control information indicating the playback mode of said source and including copy management information indicating whether copying of only digital data is inhibited or copying of both digital data and analog signals is inhibited; and

means for performing a pre-set conversion operation on said digital data and/or an analog signal generated from said digital data, based on said recording control information;

wherein said pre-set conversion operation for said analog signal includes a color burst inverting operation in which the phase of a front part of a color burst signal in said analog signal is inverted; wherein said color burst signal follows a pre-period burst signal inserted on the trailing side of a horizontal blanking pulse in said analog signal; said pre-period burst signal having the same phase as the inverted front part of the color burst signal.

Claim 87. (original) The apparatus according to claim 86, wherein said digital data is partitioned into sectors or blocks and said recording control information is included in at least one of said sectors or blocks.

Claim 88. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 86, wherein said digital data is digital audio and/or digital video data, and wherein said pre-set conversion operation is performed on said audio and/or video data based on said recording control information.

Claim 89. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 88, wherein said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data is a digital descrambling operation.

Claim 90. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 89, wherein said digital data is ciphered data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data includes an operation of deciphering said digital data using key information derived from information used to generate said ciphered data.

Claim 91. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 90, wherein said source is a disc-shaped recording medium and said key information is recorded at a pre-set position of said recording medium.

Claim 92. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein said digital data is digital audio and/or digital video data, wherein said digital data is partitioned into sectors or blocks, and wherein said recording control information is included in at least one of said sectors or blocks.

Claim 93. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 92, wherein said at least one sector or block is located in a lead-in area and/or a program area of said recording medium.

Claim 94. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 93, wherein said at least one sector or block is placed in a header area of said program area.

Claim 95. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 90, wherein said source is an Integrated Circuit (IC) recording medium and said key information is recorded at a pre-set position of said recording medium.

Claim 96. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 95, wherein said digital data is digital audio and/or digital video data, wherein said digital data is partitioned into sectors or blocks, and wherein said recording control information is included in at least one of said sectors or blocks.

Claim 97. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 96, wherein said at least one sector or block is located in a lead-in area and/or a program area of said recording medium.

Claim 98. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 97, wherein said at least one sector or block is placed in a header area of said program area.

Claim 99. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 88, wherein said digital data is ciphered data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data is an operation of digitally deciphering said digital data.

Claim 100. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 88, wherein said digital data is ciphered data and said pre-set conversion operation on said digital data is an operation of deciphering said digital data according to decoding means specified by at least a portion of said recording control information having key information.

Claim 101. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 86, wherein said analog signal is an analog video signal and wherein said pre-set conversion operation includes arraying a combination signal of plural pseudo synchronization pulses and plural white peak signals across plural horizontal periods in a vertical blanking period of said analog video signal.

Claim 102. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 86, wherein said analog signal is an analog color video signal and wherein said pre-set conversion operation includes changing the phase of at least a portion of a color burst signal associated with said color video signal.

Claim 103. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 86, wherein said pre-set conversion operation involves arraying a signal coded with plural bits at a pre-set position in the analog signal.

Claim 104. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 103, wherein said analog signal is an analog video signal and said pre-set position is a predetermined horizontal period within a vertical blanking period of said analog video signal.

Claim 105. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 103, wherein said signal coded with plural bits includes a recording limitation signal indicating a limitation on recording.

Claims 106-123. (canceled)